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in general are: "Kindergarten Influence in Elementary Education," and "New Tendencies." Nowhere else can a better statement be found of the trend of modern education and the factors that are shaping it.

The last chapter in the book contains a well-balanced review and critical analysis of the Froebelian principles of education, and of the conceptions that are now demanding a reinterpretation of Froebel's philosophy and a reorganization of his method.

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*Society and Politics in Ancient Rome. Essays and sketches.* By FRANK FROST ABBOTT. New York: Scribner, 1909. Pp. x+267. \$1.25 net.

This book, as we learn from the preface, contains reprints of various magazine articles and similar publications, and also some new material. It is well arranged and edited, while the excellent paper and printing, the accurate proofreading, and the addition of a handy index combine to make it both an attractive and a useful volume.

Neither can it be considered a thankless task to collect in a new work essays previously published, for these were so widely scattered, that but few could have been known to any one reader. For myself I must confess that I remembered but four as previously known, though the reprinted essays are ten in number. The titles follow: (1) "Municipal Politics in Pompeii"; (2) "The Story of Two Oligarchies" (the Roman versus the U. S. Senate); (3) "Women and Public Affairs under the Roman Republic"; (5) "The Theater as a Factor in Roman Politics under the Republic"; (6) "Petronius; a Study in Ancient Realism"; (7) "A Roman Puritan" (Persius); (8) "Petrarch's Letters to Cicero"; (10) "The Career of a Roman Student" (Cicero's son); (11) "Some Spurious Inscriptions and Their Authors"; (12) "The Evolution of the Modern Forms of the Letters of Our Alphabet."

Everyone must acknowledge that most of these essays have gained in force by their united publication. This is especially true of the first five, slightly less so of the following five, which, by the way, suggest that the title should have been "Society, Politics, and Literature in ancient Rome." Without detracting from the merit of the last two essays (Nos. 11 and 12), it may be urged that they are a little out of place in a volume otherwise so well balanced. Of the other reprinted essays No. 3 should certainly be popular with ladies' literary clubs and with the "suffragettes," for Professor Abbott makes many of the prominent politicians and public men of Rome look like mere puppets, handled by their wives or sweethearts. The thesis seems to be proved, and that too without a pretense of exhausting the evidence; yet admirers of antiquity may remember that there is another side to the story of woman's position and influence at Rome, which did not lie within the field of the essay.

In the essay on "Petronius" the comparison with the early Spanish novel is most apt and interesting, though I noted one slight slip. On p. 126 the statement that "magic, the supernatural, etc., are carefully excluded" seems hardly true for Petronius; cf. *Cena Trimalchionis*, §62, where occurs the story of a man changing himself into a wolf.

No. 7 will probably arouse interest for an author now seldom read, though

I cannot fully agree with the sentiments. The New England Puritan may be deserving of weighty punishment, but to be compelled to read and admire Persius as his own prototype seems rather exacting. Professor Abbott is however partly justified, for he assigns the penalty from a personal memory of the enormity of the offense; cf. his reference to his boyhood days on p. 140.

Of the two new essays in the book, No. 4, "Roman Women in the Trades and Professions," is the more interesting. For a popular essay it is very broad and scholarly and is nevertheless entertaining at every point. Some may object to the treatment of faith cures and women physicians in such close succession, or to the statement of Petronius, "a doctor is nothing else than a sort of consolation to the mind," but no one can be offended, for our author properly points out that in the Roman times all physicians, including the women, were of a low social position and hence not to be compared with the modern profession. On p. 91 Professor Abbott mentions the poetess Sulpicia as the authoress of a half-dozen elegies, which pass under the name of Tibullus. I agree with him on this question of authorship, but it seems to involve too many consequences for so brief and positive a treatment; for instance, would he assign the Cerinthus poems also to Sulpicia? If so, the number is nearer a dozen poems. In any case I should not hesitate to rank Sulpicia higher as a poetess than Professor Abbott has ventured to do. On the other hand the discussion of "Silvia's Journey to the Holy Lands" is full and appreciative. I know of no other equally good and popular account of this interesting story by an unknown authoress.

The other new essay, No. 9, is on "Literature and the Common People at Rome." While popular in character, the discussion is broadened and made interesting to scholars also by treating both wall-paintings and inscriptions in addition to the literary sources.

The book should have a wide circle of readers, especially among Latin teachers.

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*Selbstbetätigung und Schaffensfreude in Erziehung und Unterricht, mit besonderer Berücksichtigung des ersten Schuljahres.* Von W. WETEKAMP. Zweite, stark vermehrte Auflage, nebst einem Anhang: Wie ich die Idee der Selbstbetätigung in 1½ jähriger Schularbeit durchzuführen suchte. Von PAUL BORCHERT. Leipzig: Teubner, 1910. Pp. iv+94. Mit 16 Tafeln. M. 1.80.

This pamphlet is the report of an experiment along the lines of manual training in Germany, and is significant to American teachers in that it contains in essence a change from the former principle of German education of "education for knowledge" to the newer characteristic of education "for social efficiency and industrial service."

The merits of this type of education, according to Dr. Wetekamp are: the transition from home to school is facilitated, because the instruction is closely connected with the play instinct and the natural activity impulse of the